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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Activities of the 9th Tank Div. in the Riesa - Zeithain -  
Luehlberg Area 25X1

EVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED  25X1

DATE OF CONTENT  25X1

DATE OBTAINED  PREPARED 15 September 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (No. & type)

REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information 25X1

- At 1630 on 29 July 1955, between 12 and 15 trucks and 1 crane truck were parked in the wooded section east of the Kreinitz-Muenhberg road, approximately 7.5 km north of Kreinitz. The road and the river-side meadows were heavily rutted by full-track vehicles. Two signboards at the wooded point pointed to a river-crossing point on the Elbe. A motor boat was moored at a pier on the east bank. Apparently a tank unit had crossed the river on ferries. A KVP engineer unit, which carried out exercises with two ferries at that time, was probably involved in this. At the bank, a pneumatic air pump was seen. On 30 July, a unit, presumably stationed in Oschau, moved from Riesa in the direction of Grossenhain. The unit included 4 trucks, each towing an AAA gun and carried 6 to 8 EM with red-bordered black epaulets, 6 to 8 trucks carrying EM with red-bordered black epaulets, 1 repair-shop truck, 2 trucks each towing a 85-mm AAA gun and carrying 10 to 12 EM, 1 151 rocket launcher, 1 sedan, 1 jeep, 4 armored personnel carriers, 1 four-wheel armored personnel carrier. On 3 August, 2 four-wheel armored personnel carriers each carrying 1 machine gun, 1 officer and 5 EM with black-bordered red epaulets were seen west of the Kreinitz - Luehlberg road. At approximately 0900, 3 sidecar motor vehicles arrived from the direction of Grossenhain. Groups of KVP soldiers carried out rowing exercises with pontoons. At approximately 1500 on 4 August, 2 motor boats were moored at the east bank of the Elbe River. 25X1
- At 2000 on 5 August, 22 to 25 trucks arrived from the direction of Grossenhain via Gohlis at Luehlberg pioneer training grounds. The trucks carried TMP-steel pontoons and completed sections of the bridge superstructure supported by U and EM steel girders. This column included also 5 trucks carrying timber gratings, 2 trucks each towing a motor boat, 5 trucks each carrying 20 EM with black-bordered black epaulets, 1 repair-shop truck, and 1 field kitchen. 25X1
- At 1700 on 8 August, a KVP engineer unit, including 12 3-axle trucks loaded with TMP steel pontoons, steel girders and planks, 5 empty trucks, and 1 crane truck, was seen. A four-section pontoon ferry was moored in the middle of the river. Several high-ranking officers and KVP engineer soldiers were seen on the ferry.

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[redacted] amphibious car, 1 T-34/85 and 1 JSU without gun carrying 12 - 15 EM with red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia were seen parked.

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4. The vehicles noticed on 29 July in the wooded section east of the Kreinitz - Muehlberg road had left, but another unit had assembled in the wooded section west of Jacobsthal.
5. At approximately 0730 on 8 August, a column was seen which included 25 - 30 four-wheel armored personnel carriers, 20 sidecar motor cycles, 8 - 10 trucks carrying fuel containers, 2 trucks each towing a field kitchen, 2 tank trucks, 3 radio trucks, and 1 ambulance. Nine canvas-covered T-34/85 and approximately 40 EM with red-bordered black epaulets remained in the wooded section.
6. On 10 August, the KVP engineer unit was still observed in the training area. At approximately 1030, the four-section pontoon ferry was again noticed on the Elbe River. The crossing of trucks was practiced with a ferry consisting of 8 pontoons pushed by 2 motor boats. At Kreinitz, 1 US-Ford GPA amphibious car, [redacted] carried 1 major and two EM wearing black-bordered black epaulets.
7. At approximately 0330 on 10 August, 15 to 20 T-54s arrived from Oschatz at Zeithain training grounds.

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[redacted] Comment. This information on training activities in the Riesa - Muehlberg area confirms previous reports. [redacted]

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[redacted] Additional reports indicate that the training activities on the Muehlberg engineer training grounds involved units of the 9th Tank Div, a KVP engineer unit and presumably also engineer units of the 8th Gds Mecz Div, of the 11th Gds Tank Div, and/or of the u/i engineer regiment of the First Gds Mecz Army. These units probably practiced in rotation.

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